

## **PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**

**JULY 22, 2008**

### **WORKSHOP**

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in workshop session with the following members present: Chairman Billy E. Traylor, Commissioners Nathan Peters, Jr., Jerry W. Barnes, and Bill Williams. <Commissioner Carmen L. McLemore was absent.>

Other present were: County Attorney Tim McFarland, Clerk of Circuit Court Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk Finance Officer Carla Hand, Deputy Clerk Kayla Duke, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Human Resource Director Denise Manuel, Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky, Planner David Richardson, Solid Waste Director Joe Danford, Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, Emergency Management/911 Coordinator Ben Guthrie, Gulf County E.M.S. Director Shane McGuffin, Road Department Superintendent Bobby Knee, Maintenance Superintendent Steve Mork, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, TDC Director Paula Pickett, G.I.S. Director Scott Warner, Assistant Public Works Supervisor Jake Lewis, Jail Transition Coordinator Denny Durben, Veteran's Service Officer James Kennedy, and Sheriff Joe Nugent.

Chairman Traylor called the meeting to order 4:02p.m., E.T.

### **GULF COUNTY BARGAINING UNIT STAFFING ANALYSIS**

Chairman Traylor stated that the purpose of this meeting was for the public's information on where tax dollars are being spent in the County. Administrator Butler gave a presentation, listing the budget history of each department, dating back to the 2,000 budget year. Butler discussed new buildings that have been built since 2,000 to house growing departments, and additional bills, as a result of those buildings. Butler further discussed the impact of unfunded mandates on the County budget, and the impact of new programs the County has adopted. Butler showed several charts depicting comparisons between 2,000 and present day, including escalating insurance costs, employee salaries, and utility and fuel cost increases. Butler discussed new training requirements for the Emergency Management Department, and the cost of these classes. Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson stated that the training costs were approximately \$42,000.00. Administrator Butler discussed the effect of legislative changes, and concurrency laws on the County budget. Butler presented a slide depicting growth management statistics, including comprehensive plan mandates. Butler showed a chart explaining revenue differences in the various County funds, and concluded that, lawfully, it would not be possible for the County to adopt the same budget that was in place in the year 2,000. Upon Commissioner Peter's inquiry, Butler confirmed the property insurance comparison numbers, which depicted a \$242,000.00 increase. Commissioner Peters requested to be provided with a document showing buildings added to the County insurance, and the cost of each building that was

added. Attorney McFarland discussed that property insurance rates have also gone up due to lawsuits.

Solid Waste Director Joe Danford gave a power point presentation explaining where County employees work, the time spent, and priority assessments, which include Life, Health & Safety, Property, and Convenience. Danford included the duties and time spent of the Public Works, Road, Mosquito Control, Maintenance, and Solid Waste Departments. Danford included the number of employees, both full and part time in each department, and the specific duties performed including details on the priorities and time requirements of each task. Danford stated that the spread sheets clearly show the number of men who are assigned to each task. Upon Commissioner Peter's inquiry, Danford stated that there were no personnel cuts to the Solid Waste Department. Commissioner Peters stated that he will support the Solid Waste Department in the upcoming budget sessions. Commissioner Peters asked what the budget increase would have to be to maintain the current Mosquito Control program. Danford stated the budget would need to be approximately \$410,000.00 to include the increase in fuel and chemical costs. Commissioner Peters stated that he believes Gulf County has a good Mosquito Control system, and commended Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran for the job he is doing. Commissioner Williams stated that he would like to have more information on the percentages of unpaved roads in the County. Road Department Superintendent stated that he is working on that updated list now. Commissioner Williams stated that there should be an inverted return on investment when a department has spent money on long term debt. Commissioner Williams stated he would like to see where the additional funds from paved roads and decrease in maintenance costs are being shifted. Administrator Butler stated that the County has lost six employees, and has not replaced them. Commissioner Williams stated he would like to see how the County can align resources that have been freed. Danford stated that this presentation was only the "tip of the iceberg," and expressed the need to keep a detailed track of where all the County money is being distributed. Commissioner Williams expressed the need to have a system analysis for fuel costs. Chairman Traylor expressed his regrets that the public attendance of the meeting was less than he had hoped. He further expressed the importance of verifying statements regarding County issues.

There being no further business the meeting did then adjourn at 5:51 p.m., E.T.

<Complete copies of both presentations on file in Clerk's office.>

**BILLY E. TRAYLOR**  
**CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

**REBECCA L. NORRIS**  
**CLERK**

